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Report Title

Final Report: Multicharged Ion Promoted Desorption (MIPD) of Reaction Co-Products

ABSTRACT

Multicharged ions (MCIs) produced in a new, electron beam ion trap (EBIT) based ion source, were investigated as a means of inducing athermal surface reactions for thin film processing. The specific surface systems investigated were highly oriented pyrolytic graphite (HOPG), nanodiamond (ND) and polycarbonate (PC). Beams of oxygen (Q=3+ and 5+) and argon (Q=1+, 4+, and 8+) ions were focused at normal incidence onto these target surfaces with fluences in the range of $10^{12} - 10^{13}$ particles per square centimeter. In-situ measurements of desorption and ex-situ measurements of surface modifications using mass spectrometry, Raman spectroscopy and XPS were made to determine ion-induced effects. The primary ion-induced results were in the HOPG and PC systems, where the ion impacts led to structural changes that could be attributed to bond breaking (both HOPG and PC) and the formation of new solid phases (HOPG to diamond-like conversion). The structural changes observed in PC indicate a charge-dependent enhancement, and, consequently, dosedependent effects with an onset at fluences three orders of magnitude below those required for singly charged ions surface processing of the same substrate.

Enter List of papers submitted or published that acknowledge ARO support from the start of the project to the date of this printing. List the papers, including journal references, in the following categories:

(a) Papers published in peer-reviewed journals (N/A for none)

02/04/2015	2.00	Dhruva D. Kulkarni, Radhey E. Shyam, Daniel B. Cutshall, Daniel A. Field, James E. Harriss, William R. Harrell, Chad E. Sosolik. Tracking subsurface ion radiation damage with metal–oxide–semiconductor device encapsulation, Journal of Materials Research, (01 2015): 0. doi: 10.1557/jmr.2014.386
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		(b) Papers published in non-peer-reviewed journals (N/A for none)
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Chad Sosolik	0.17	
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Scientific Progress

1. Statement of Problem Studied

The goal of this project was to investigate non-thermal chemistry at surfaces initiated by the interactions and/or impacts of multicharged ions (MCIs). This particular work was part of a larger DARPA effort to achieve low temperature thin film growth. Our initial work was focused on the chemistry of diamond growth, and, in particular, the removal of hydrogen from the growth surface as a means to open up new sites for carbon attachment and ultimately diamond film growth. Following Phase 1/Phase 2 efforts in this program, we shifted our focus to questions of adhesion for film growth and the ability of MCIs to change the hydrophobicity of thermoplastic polymers such as polycarbonate (PC).

2. Summary of Most Important Results

The results of this work are summarized below and organized around the two systems studied: carbon materials and polycarbonate.

a. Carbon materials

The carbon materials investigated were highly oriented pyrolytic graphite (HOPG), nanodiamond (ND) and diamond-like-carbon (DLC). The HOPG samples were acquired from SPI Supplies, the nanodiamond samples were obtained from sp3 Diamond Technologies, and the DLC was obtained from Southwest Research Institute.

HOPG

For the HOPG materials, the irradiations were carried out using beams of Carbon and Argon ions with nominal kinetic energies of 1.0 keV. All sample irradiations were made with the samples at normal incidence to the incoming beams and post-analysis of these samples was achieved using Raman spectroscopy. It should be noted that the initial goal of these experiments was to determine an energetic threshold for damage in the irradiated HOPG samples that could then be used as a starting point (in kinetic energy) for irradiations of diamond-like targets.

In Figure 1 are shown typical Raman spectra for these samples. Comparing the three spectra (one pristine and two irradiated samples) it is clear that irradiation at this kinetic energy leads to the formation of new features in the 1000-1500 cm⁻¹ wavenumber range. For both the C⁴⁺ and Ar⁸⁺ irradiations a feature labeled "D" appears, while for the Ar⁸⁺ a feature labeled "T" also appears. The "D" peak represents the breathing modes of sp2 atoms in rings and is indicative of ion-induced disorder within the structure. The "T" peak arises due to C-C sp3 vibrations and is most typically associated with nano-crystalline diamond structures. Although charge states below Ar⁸⁺ were used, the "T" structure was not observed until this threshold charge state was reached. This result is consistent with prior measurements of irradiation of HOPG structures, where scanning tunneling spectroscopy (STS) studies indicated diamond-like structure formation at single impact sites for multiply charged ions. A direct comparison of our result to other ion irradiation studies which indicate large scale changes in HOPG structure as it transitions from nano-crystalline graphite to amorphous Carbon phases is not reasonable. This is because those studies show transformational onset at defect densities of 10²² vacancies/cm³ whereas the highest

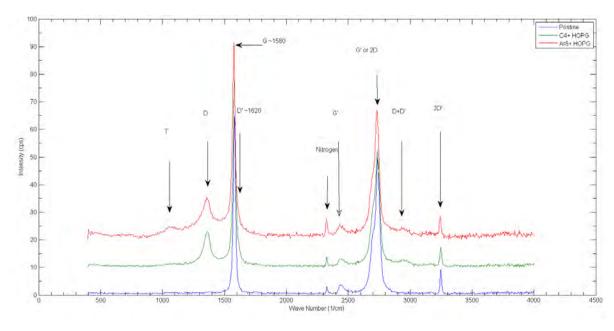


Figure 1: Raman spectroscopy scans of pristine HOPG and HOPG irradiated with C^{4+} and Ar^{8+} ions.

incident dose for our multiply charged beams was less than 10^{12} ions/cm², far below the number of impacts necessary to reach comparably high vacancy levels [1]. Therefore, it is most reasonable to conclude that at our dose levels and an incident energy of 1 keV, the ions are introducing highly localized surface disorder at far separated sites at the HOPG surface, which, in the case of the highest charged state (Ar^{8+}) is manifest as localized regions of nanocrystalline diamond [2].

Nanodiamond and Diamond-Like-Carbon

For the nanodiamond (ND) samples, the experimental measurements were limited to studies aimed at extracting yields for ion-induced desorption of hydrogen species from prepared/dosed samples. These measurements proved to be highly inconclusive due to an overall lack of sensitivity to these low mass species (either hydrogen or deuterium) within the experimental setup (a commercially available mass spectrometer from Stanford Research Systems). While the pursuit of these data led to the installation of a pulsing and timing system on our electron beam ion trap and beamline and a microchannel plate detector for improved sensitivity, this effort was suspended based on feedback from DARPA regarding our non-continuation in the overall LoCo effort.

For the diamond-like-carbon (DLC), a single sample was irradiated with a high dose of Ar⁸⁺ ions (2.5 x 10¹³ ions/cm²) and then scanned using Raman spectroscopy at multiple, spatially-separated spots. These results, shown in Figure 2, indicated a spatially-varying signal for the DLC manifested as an overall loss in intensity in the spectrum in the most highly irradiated regions relative to pristine or unirradiated regions. This may be attributable to surface roughness in the highly irradiated regions. However, from our perspective, the most important part of this

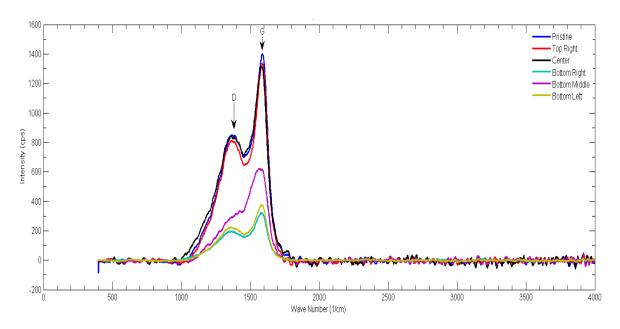


Figure 2: Raman spectroscopy scans of an Ar⁸⁺ irradiated DLC sample at several spatially-separated points. The overall variations in structure and intensity indicate both an ion impact effect and the convolution of this effect with the current density profile of the incident ion beam.

result was its indication that the effects of the multiply charged ions are extremely sensitive to the current density profile of the beam. Therefore, subsequent measurements with polycarbonate samples were preceded by a determination of the typical current density profile for the beams and a calibration of the alignment of this profile with positions near the center of irradiated samples.

b. Polycarbonate

Samples of polycarbonate (PC) were investigated under multiply charged ion irradiation as a transitional project following our release from our specific track on the Phase 2 team. The motivation for this work was the observation that the ultimate goal of the program has been to grow a film that would be adherent to a substrate that was constrained by its own low temperature properties. Therefore, a low temperature method for modifying the adhesion properties of such a substrate would be a desirable outcome. Prior measurements in the literature indicated that high dose singly charged ion irradiation was a method that could lead to surface structural changes that were beneficial to film adhesion [3,4]. In particular, changes in the hydrophobicity of a PC substrate were indicative of improved adhesion properties. For our setup, one standard method for testing hydrophobicity, the contact angle for a water droplet, was deemed infeasible given that our beam size (few mm) was comparable to or even smaller than the typical "test drop" size. Therefore, we designed a set of measurements that would utilize x-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) as a means to interrogate the ion-irradiated surface of a PC sample.

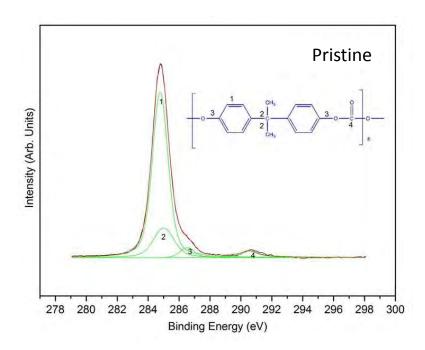


Figure 3: A representative XPS spectrum taken on a pristine, i.e. unirradiated, polycarbonate (PC) sample. The inset shows the basic PC structure and numbers 1-4 label the bond/peak assignments within that structure and the XPS spectrum.

In these measurements, a large PC sheet (300 mm x 1200 mm) was obtained from United States Plastic Corp. and diced into individual samples for irradiation by Oxygen and Argon ions. As in previous irradiation studies on carbon samples, the incident beam was held at normal incidence to the substrate. The incident dose range was 10¹² to 10¹³ particles per cm² and the incident ion energy was held at 1 keV for all species and charge states. All XPS measurements were made using the cleanroom facilities at Georgia Tech University. A typical pristine C1S XPS spectrum on PC is shown in Figure 3. The primary peaks, labeled 1-4, correspond to the aromatic and aliphatic bond types shown in Table 1. For these data, we considered, that changes in the intensities of these peaks would correspond to changes in substrate hydrophobicity in the irradiated region probed. These peak intensity changes were tracked as a function of dose and for different ions and charge states.

TABLE 1

Chemical Composition/ Structure	No. of Carbon atoms	Intensity	Types of Bonds present
Aromatic	10	HIGHEST (1)	Average Bond length is 1.5
Aliphatic CH3	3	(2)	2 (C-C) bonds
Aromatic Carbon bonded to Oxygen	2	(3)	Aromatic (C-O)
CO ₃ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	1	LOWEST (4)	1 (C = O) 2 (C - O)

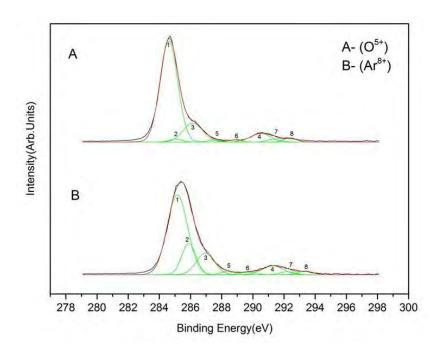


Figure 4: Representative XPS spectra taken on polycarbonate (PC) samples irradiated with O^{5+} and Ar^{8+} ions.

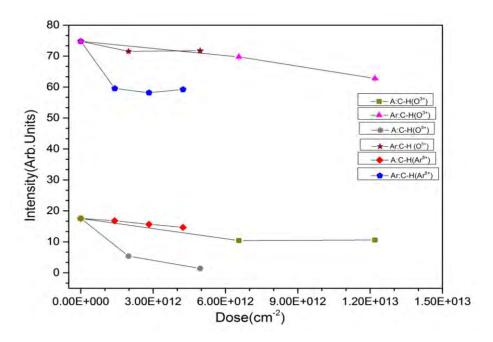


Figure 5: The change in intensity for C-C bonded species at a PC surface as extracted from XPS spectrum intensities, plotted with respect to the dose of incident O^{5+} and Ar^{8+} ions.

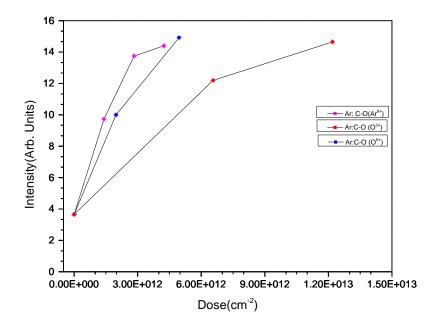


Figure 6: The change in intensity for C-O bonded species at a PC surface as extracted from XPS spectrum intensities, plotted with respect to the dose of incident O^{5+} and Ar^{8+} ions.

In Figure 4 are shown some typical XPS spectra for PC samples irradiated with O⁵⁺ and Ar⁸⁺ ions. A qualitative comparison to the pristine spectrum from Figure 3 makes it clear that in either of the irradiated cases, the ions have led to the significant changes in the relative intensities of peaks 1-3 as well as the introduction of new features (fit as peaks 5-8) into the spectrum. The shifts in the integrated intensity of these features as a function of the total ion dose are shown in Figures 5 and 6 for C-C bonds and C-O bonds, respectively. These changes, calibrated per incident ion at a fixed dose, are summarized in the histogram of Figure 7 and listed according to the potential energy of the three ion species used.

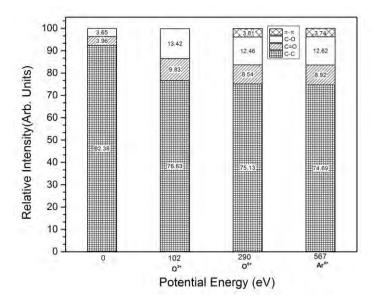


Figure 7: Histogram of the relative integrated intensities of the bond structures at a PC surface for pristine and irradiated samples. Intensities are extracted from XPS spectra, with the irradiated data representing the bond structures present after a fixed, standard dose of ions (\sim 5 x 10^{12} cm⁻²) was used for the three species/charge states investigated.

If these data are considered in terms of the histogram of Figure 7, we can conclude first that the results show that all of the multiply charged ion species used lead to surface bonding changes (per ion) that are relatively comparable. While this appears to be a somewhat inconclusive result in terms of specific multiply charged species, the overall data indicate a significant enhancement in the ability of all of the species to affect surface bonding. Specifically, the incident dose range used (10¹² to 10¹³ ions/cm²) is approximately three orders of magnitude below that required to achieve similar effects in singly charged ion irradiations. For these singly charged ions, this dose range (approximately 10¹⁶ ions/cm²) is physically understandable as it corresponds roughly to one incident ion per surface atom needed to effect a change. Therefore, for multiply charged ions, the three order of magnitude drop in required dose points to a charge state mediated enhancement in the ability to break and/or change surface bonding characteristics in PC. The relatively flat dependence on ion charge state seen here could indicate that for these data we are

in a saturated regime for this enhancement, and further results across a wider charge state range would likely elucidate the full dependence on charge state (or ion potential energy).

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